

KONOSUBA: GOD'S BLESSING ON THIS WONDERFUL WORLD!

1

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KONOSUBA:
GOD'S BLESSING
ON THIS
WONDERFUL WORLD!





Chapter 1	May I Go to a New World with This Self-Proclaimed Goddess!	3
Chapter 2	May There Be Joy for This Beautiful Expert!	45
Chapter 3	May There Be Rest to These Undead!	75
Chapter 4	Let There be Guidance on This Explosive Path!	105
Chapter 5	May There be Salvation for This Miserable Goddess!	137



SADLY,
YOU HAVE
PASSED
ON.

MY
CONSOLATION...

WELCOME
TO THE
GREAT
BEYOND,
KAZUMA
SATOU-
SAN.



...CERTAINLY
MORE THAN
GOING TO
HEAVEN OR
BEING REBORN
AS A LITTLE
BABY OR
WHATEVER!

HOWEVER,
I'VE GOT
AN OFFER
YOU MIGHT
LIKE...



LET ME
EXPLAIN...

NO
SOONER
HAD MY
PEACEFUL,
REAL-
WORLD
LIFE
ENDED...

MY NAME
IS... WAS
KAZUMA
SATOU. I'M
SIXTEEN.

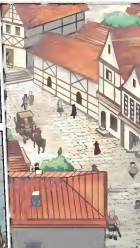
I'M A
WORLDWIDE
WARGAMES
GAMER.

MAY I GO TO A NEW WORLD WITH
THIS SELF-PROCLAIMED GODDESS?

...IN A
GOOD-FOR-
NOTHING
WORLD,
ON AN
ADVENTURE
I NEVER
EXPECTED.

...THAN
I FOUND
MYSELF
WITH THIS
GOOD-FOR-
NOTHING
CREW...

KONOSUBA:
GOD'S BLESSING
ON THIS
WONDERFUL WORLD!





THIS IS
ANOTHER
WORLD...



WOW!!
A GENUINE
PARALLEL
UNIVERSE!!



THAT
GIRL
OMIGAWD! HAS
IS THAT CAT
AN ELF? EARS!
AND—

SHE
LOOKS
LIKE A
MAGE!

THOSE
ARE
REAL
SWORDS!
AND
ARMOR!



HELLO,
FANTASY
WORLD!
NOW, THIS
IS A PLACE
WHERE I
COULD GO
OUTSIDE,
STOP
BEING A
NEET...

UNBE-
LIEVABLE!
I'M IN AN
ACTUAL
FANTASY
UNIVERSE!



AWWWW,
HOW
COULD
THIS BE!?

HORAAY!!

OH, UH,
SORRY...

13MK

IF YOU
DON'T LIKE
IT THAT
MUCH, YOU
COULD GO
HOME, I
GUESS...

WHY
DID YOU
HAVE TO
DRAG
ME HERE
TOO!?

WHYYYYY
...?

HEY,
I'M A
VICTIM
HERE
TOO.

LET'S
REMEMBER
HOW
WE GOT
HERE...

I'M
DEAD?

ARRRGH,
THIS
IS ALL
YOUR
FAULT!

IF IT
WERE
THAT
EASY, I
WOULDN'T
BE SO
UPSET,
NOW,
WOULD I
?



...KAZUMA
SATOU-
SAN?

YEP!
'FRAID
SO.
DIDN'T
LIKE
VERY
LONG
TOD
YOU



"RUNAWAY"

HUH?

NORMALLY
I JUST
LIVE IN
MY ROOM.
I DON'T
EVEN
GO TO
SCHOOL.

HUH...

THAT'S
WHEN I
SAW A HIGH
SCHOOL
GIRL —
OBLIVIOUS
TO THE
RUNAWAY
TRUCK
ABOUT TO
RUN HER
OVER!

BUT THAT
DAY, FOR
ONCE, I
HAPPENED
TO LEAVE
THE
HOUSE...



I
REMEMBER...
I LEAPED
TO THE
RESCUE...



TELL
ME!

DID
THAT GIRL
I DIED FOR
MAKE IT
OUT ALL
RIGHT?

SO
THAT'S
HOW I
DIED.

BUT HEY,
SACRIFICING
YOURSELF TO
SAVE A YOUNG
WOMAN IS
PRETTY BAD-
ASS, HUNT?

KEA-DEEN



MY
NAME IS
AQUA.

I'M A
GODDESS
WHO GIVES
GUIDANCE TO
THOSE WHO
DIE YOUNG
IN JAPAN.

WELL,
ANYWAY,
LET'S
START
OVER,
FROM
THE
TOP.

I KNOW THIS
IS SUDDEN,
BUT I HAVE
AN OFFER
YOU MIGHT
LIKE.

AN
OFFER
I MIGHT
LIKE?



WELL,
LUL...
IN THIS
OTHER
WORLD,
DIFFERENT
FROM
YOURS
...
THERE'S
THIS GUY
CALLED
THE DEMON
KING.

UH...
HUH.



THAT'S
NOT THE
KIND OF
OFFER I'M
TALKING
ABOUT.

BEING THE
"KIND OF A NEW
WORLD" THAT
KIND OF
STUFF

NO,
NO

I'M NOT
DOWN FOR
ANYTHING,
Y'KNOW,
WEIRD.



HUH?
YEAH, I
GUESS...

YOU
LIKE
GAMES,
RIGHT?



AT
THIS RATE,
PEOPLE ARE
GOING TO
VANISH FROM
THAT WORLD...
JUST GET
EXTERMINATED.

SO
IT'S BEEN
DECIDED TO
SEND SOMEONE
WHO DIED
IN ANOTHER
WORLD INTO
THAT ONE...

SOMEONE
WHO DIED
YOUNG AND
IS STILL
ATTACHED
TO LIFE—
SOMEONE
LIKE YOU!

WHAT DO
YOU SAY?
THINK YOU
COULD ZIP
OVER THERE
AND TAKE
OUT THE
DEMON
KING?

IT'LL BE
JUST LIKE
YOUR
GAMES!
♡

THIS
WORLD IS
THREATENED
BY THE
INVASION OF
THE DEMON
KING'S
ARMY.

PEOPLE ARE
GETTING KILLED
BY THESE
SULUUPER
SCARY
MONSTERS,
AND THEY
DON'T WANT TO
BE REBORN!

TOO
TRAGEDIC.
SEE?

WHY
NOOOOT!?
IT'S A FUN
PLACE, YOU
KNOW! WITH
SWORDS AND
SORCERY
AND
EVERY-
THING!?

YOU
LIKE
THAT
STUFF,
RIGHT?

NOT
ON YOUR
LIFE.

HUH?

NO
CHANCE!

W-WAIT!
WE'VE GOT
A GREAT
DEAL GOING
ON NOW
FOR ANYONE
WHO TAKES
US UP ON
THIS!

OH...

YOU'LL
BE FINE!

AWW,
PLEASEEEEE?
I'VE GOT A
GLORIOUS
MEET!

HONESTLY?
IT SOUNDS
GREAT BUT
ALSO LIKE A
PAIN IN THE
BUTT.

A DEMON
KING

AND
ANYWAY, I
COULDN'T
TAKE DOWN
A HOUSEFLY,
LET ALONE A
MONSTER.

AN
AWESOME
SPECIAL
ABILITY OR
INCREDIBLE
TALENT...

...OR A
LEGENDARY
WEAPON,
SAY.

IT'S
BASICALLY
LIKE SORTING
WITH YOUR
GREAT!

...YOU CAN
CHOOSE
ANY ONE
THING TO
TAKE WITH
YOU.

SINCE
IT'D BE
SILLY TO SEND
YOU OVER
THERE JUST
TO HAVE YOU
DIE RIGHT
AWAY...



HELP!

HELP ME.
SPECIFICALLY.

SO
PLEASE!



HMMM...

YOU
GOT IT!
JUST
COME
TO
THE
CENTER
OF
THE
ROOM
AND...

ALL
RIGHT.
I WANT
YOU.

FINGER

SO I
CAN PICK
ANY ONE
THING...?

HUH?

Y-YEAH...
WHAT DO YOU
WANT?

WIKED
THROAT
SUPER-
STRENGTH





HEY, WAIT
A SECOND!

SHOOM!

HOLD ON!
I'M THE
GODDESS
OF SOLACE!
I DON'T
KNOW HOW
TO FIGHT!

NOW, HERO!
GO FORTH TO
DEFEAT THE
DEVIL KING!

TAKING
THE
GODDESS
WITH YOU IS
CHEAAATIIING
!!

TH-
THAT'S
SUPPOSED
TO BE MY
LINE!



WHEN YOU GET TO A NEW TOWN, YOU START BY GATHERING INFORMATION.

ALL RIGHT, GODDESS— WHERE'S THE TAVERN OR THE GUILD HALL?

HUH? HOW SHOULD I KNOW?



QUIT BLUBBERING. WE HAVE TO FIGURE OUT WHAT TO DO NEXT.

THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT...

WAAAAA



HUH, SEE IF I EVER ASK YOU FOR ADVICE AGAIN, YOU... DUMB JERK.

I THOUGHT A GODDESS WOULD BE HELPFUL, BUT SHE'S USELESS!



THIS IS JUST ONE OF A HUGE NUMBER OF PARALLEL UNIVERSES. I ONLY KNOW THE MOST BASIC THINGS ABOUT IT.

AND SPEAKING OF GODDESSES, I AM WORSHIPPED HERE, SO CALL ME AGUA, YOU HIKINEET.





HUH?
WE HAVE
TO PAY?

THAT
WILL BE
1000
BRIS EACH,
PLEASE.



Of course
not! You
think I had
time to grab
my wallet
when we
left?

Hey...
you got
any cash?



UM...WE'D
LIKE TO BE
ADVENTURERS.

OF COURSE
WE PICK
THE PRETTY
ONE

ADVENTURER
REGISTRATION.
CERTAINLY!



IF YOUR
LITTLE
HIKINEET
BRAIN
CAN EVEN
HANDLE
IT...

...ALLOW
ME TO
DEMONSTRATE
WHAT IT
MEANS TO BE
A GODDESS!



SHEESH...
IN A
GAME, YOU
ALWAYS
START
WITH AT
LEAST A
LITTLE
MONEY.

HEH!







...PLEASE
TOUCH THIS
ADVENTURER
CARD.

DEFEATING
MONSTERS
WILL EARN YOU
EXPERIENCE
POINTS AND ALLOW
YOU TO LEVEL UP,
AT WHICH TIME,
THE CARD WILL
ALSO DISPLAY
AVAILABLE SKILL
POINTS.

IT WILL
SHOW YOUR
LEVEL AND
STATS,
MAKING IT
POSSIBLE
TO PICK AN
APPROPRIATE
JOB.

OH, YOUR
LUCK IS
EXCEPTIONAL...
BUT LUCK
TYPICALLY ISN'T
MUCH USE TO
ADVENTURERS
...

HMM...
STRENGTH...
VITALITY...
MAGIC...ALL
AVERAGE.

AHH...
TIME TO
SEE WHAT
INCREDIBLE
ABILITIES
HAVE BEEN
WAITING
INSIDE ME
ALL THIS
TIME...

YOU
MEAN...
LIKE
THIS?

YES,
THANK
YOU,
KAZUMA...
SATOU-
SAN.

AAAA-HA-
HA-HA-HA!
IF YOU'RE
SO LUCKY,
MAYBE YOU
SHOULD GO
INTO SALES
INSTEAD!

SAY
WHAAAAAT!?

THE
MOST
BASIC
JOB?

WELL...
WITH THESE
STATS, YOU CAN'T
SPECIALIZE.
YOU'LL HAVE TO
REMAIN A BASIC
'ADVENTURER.'

GEEZ,
SURE
TAKES
THE WIND
OUT OF
MY SAILS
...

D-DON'T
WORRY...AS
YOU LEVEL UP,
YOU'LL BE ABLE
TO SWITCH
JOBS, AND THE
ADVENTURER
CAN USE SKILLS
FROM EVERY
CLASS...

BUT
HE'S TOO
TALENTLESS
TO SPECIALIZE,
RIGHT?
RIGHT?

AND HE
NEEDS SO MANY
TONTS...

HU
UU
H!?

ALMOST
ALL YOUR
STATS ARE
VASTLY
HIGHER
THAN
AVERAGE!

JUST
WHO OR
WHAT
ARE
YOU,
MA'AM!?

WHY
AM I NOT
SURPRISED?
I'M JUST
SORRY
GODDESS
ISN'T A
CLASS!

WELL—!
HOW ABOUT
ARCH-PRIEST,
THEN?

IT'S
MORE THAN
IMPRESSIVE!
YOUR MAGIC
SCORE IN
PARTICULAR
IS ALMOST
UNBELIEVABLE!

IS...IS
IT THAT
IMPRESSIVE
?

ALTHOUGH
YOUR
INTELLIGENCE
IS ON THE
LOW SIDE, AND
YOUR LUCK IS
AVERAGE...

WITH THESE
SCORES, YOU
COULD BECOME
AN ADVANCED
SPELL-CASTER
OR JUST ABOUT
ANYTHING!

WELL,
THAT
DOES IT!
CLASSES
ARE
SETTLED!!

LET'S
GET TO
WORK, YOU
USELESS
GODDESS!!

UNDERSTOOD!
SO, YOU'RE AN
ARCH-PRIEST,
AND KAZUMA
SATOU-SAN IS
A BASIC
ADVENTURER
...

IT'S
LEVEL-UP TIME!

HEY, WHAT'S
THE DEAL?

GOOD
LUCK!

GOOD
LUCK!

GOOD
LUCK!



YEEARRGGH!!

HERE
YOU WERE
SO EAGER
TO TAKE
ON A
QUEST...

...AND
YOU
CAN'T
EVEN
HANDLE
A LITTLE
GIANT
TOAD?



COULDN'T
WE FIND A
NORMAL-
SIZED
TOAD TO
START
WITH?!

BWAAA-
HA-HA-HA!
AWW, HE
LIKES YOU!

GYAAAAH!



HOWEVER,
IN RETURN,
YOU MUST
WORSHIP
ME AS
AQUA-
SAMA...

VERY WELL!
I'LL
HELP
YOU
OUT.



I
GUESS
IT IS AN
AWFUL
LOT FOR A
WINEET
TO TAKE
IN ALL AT
ONCE.

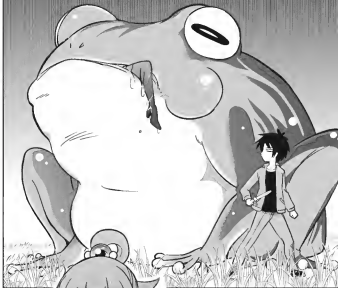


HEY, YOU
USELESS
GODDESS
!!

DON'T
JUST
STAND
THERE! DO
SOMETH—



UH?



GET UP,
YA HIKINEET!!

YOU
SURE RISK
YOUR LIFE
FOR PEANUTS
AROUND
HERE.

I'M
STARTING TO
DOUBT THE ROI
ON BEING AN
ADVENTURER
...

I'VE
GOT
IT.

WHO WAS
IT WHO SAID
WE SHOULD
GO GET IN A
PULSE-POUNDING,
ADRENALINE-
PUMPING BATTLE
WITH SOME
MONSTER?

MY
PARTY
NEEDS
MORE
ATTACK
POWER.

THAT'S
NOT THE
ONLY THING
IT NEEDS
MORE OF!

LIKE MONEY!!

AT
THIS RATE,
WE'RE
GONNA
BE BROKE
FOREVER!

IT'S TIME
WE FOUND
SOME
POWERFUL
FRIENDS!!

END
PAGE





Y-YES...
AND YOU
ARE...?

HEW!
ME...?



I'VE COME
TO INQUIRE
ABOUT THE
OPENING.

DO
I HAVE
THE
RIGHT
PLACE?



I AM
AN ARCH-
WIZARD,
HIGHEST
OF THE
MAGES!



THE
GREATEST
OF MY
SPELLS
CAN MOVE
MOUNTAINS
AND
SHATTER
STONES!

I AM
FIRST
AMONG THE
CRIMSON
MAGIC CLAN!!
AND MY NAME
IS...

MEGUMIN!!

INCIDENTALLY,
MY MOTHER IS
YUIYUI, AND
MY FATHER IS
HYOZABUROU!

THERE YOU
HAVE IT. AN
EXCEPTIONAL
MAGIC
USER,
AT YOUR
SERVICE!

NO
LOOKY-
LOOS.

I AM
NOT A
LOOKY-
LOO!

I'M...I'M
SORRY,
BUT...
HAVE YOU
NOTHING
TO EAT?
IT'S BEEN
THREE
DAYS...

GURGLE...

WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?
CRIMSON MAGIC CLAN MEMBERS
MAY HAVE WEIRD NAMES,
BUT THEY'RE ALL EXPERT
MAGIC USERS.

ARE YOU SURE THIS IS A GOOD IDEA? TAKING ON SOME JAIL-BAIT SPELL-CASTER?

IF SHE
REALLY
IS ONE OF
THE MOST
POWERFUL
WIZARDS
AROUND, WE'D
BE CRAZY TO
TURN HER
AWAY.

AND COLLASD

WU WU

IN MY VIEW,
IT IS NON-
CRIMSON MAGIC
CLAN PEOPLE
WHO HAVE
WEIRD NAMES.

BUT
NEVER
MIND
THAT.

IN MY VIEW,
IT IS NON-
CRIMSON MAGIC
CLAN PEOPLE
WHO HAVE
WEIRD NAMES.

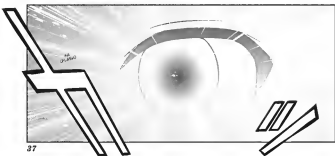
BUT
NEVER
MIND
THAT.

...MY POWER?

SHALL I SHOW YOU...

SHALL
I
SHOW
YOU...







EXPLOSION!!



COOOO
(THROOOOW)

WH...

WHOOOOA!

THOSE
TOADS
JUST
VANISHED
...

NOW...
THAT'S
MAGIC...





I W-WON'T
BE M-MOVING
FOR A WHILE.

M-MAGIC
TAKES A
LOT OUT
OF ME...



I
CONSIDERED
JUST
FEEDING
THEM BOTH
TO THE
TOAD AND
KNOCKING
OFF.

AND
THUS
WENT OUR
FIRST
QUEST
IN THIS
STRANGE,
NEW
WORLD.



God's
BLESSING
ON THIS
WONDERFUL
WORLD!

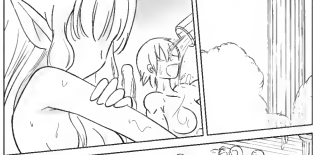


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**GOD'S
BLESSING
ON THIS
WONDERFUL
WORLD!**







NO
KIDDING...

WE
WERE
IN SOME
TIGHT
SPOT
THERE.



PHEW!



HOW
CAN THEY
JUST
CHAT LIKE
THAT...?



BUT...

...THE
INSIDE OF A
TOAD TURNS
OUT TO BE
KIND OF
WARM AND
COZY.

ONE FOR THE
TWIN BOOKS!



I
GUESS YOU
SHOULDN'T
UNDERESTIMATE
YOUR ENEMY,
EVEN WHEN
HE'S A
TOAD.

I
THOUGHT
WE'D HAVE
NO TROUBLE
BEATING
THEM.

WAS I
WRONG?

40%
TRUE

INCLUDING
TRANSPORT
FEES. ONE
TOAD IS WORTH
5,000 ERIS...WE
KILLED FIVE, SO
WE GOT 25,000
ERIS. WITH THE
COMPLETION
AWARD, IT
COMES TO
100,000!
DIVIDED BY FIVE
WAS

NO
ONE'S
POSTED
ANY EASY
QUESTS, LIKE
GATHERING
STUFF.
WE MAY
NEVER EARN
ANOTHER
ERIS...

WE
KILLED
EVERY TOAD
WE COULD
FIND, AND
WHAT DO
WE HAVE TO
SHOW FOR
IT?

ANNNH!
I WANTA
GO BACK
TO JAPAN...

2,1 ERIS = 1 YEN

LISTEN,
MEGLUMIN.

BUT
THESE
TWO...!

LOOK! THEY
STOLE THEIR
EYES!

WE
CAN
BARELY
AFFORD
A STABLE
TO SLEEP
IN. LET
ALONE
SOME
FANCY
INN...

WHAT'S
WRONG,
KAZUMA?

NOT
HAPPY?



JUST
STICK TO,
Y'KNOW,
EASIER
STUFF.

I
CAN'T.



HUH?

I AM
ALTOGETHER
UNABLE
TO USE
ANY SPELL
BUT THAT
EXPLOSION
MAGIC.



DON'T
USE YOUR
EXPLOSION
MAGIC
UNLESS
IT'S A REAL
EMERGENCY.

IT'S
POWERFUL,
BUT IT'S TOO
HIGH-RISK,
YOU ONLY
BEING ABLE
TO USE IT
ONCE AND
ALL.



...I AM AN
ARCH-WIZARD
WITH A
PROFOUND
LOVE OF
EXPLOSION
MAGIC.



PARTY
TRICKS
...?

YOU
CAN USE
THAT
POWERFUL
MAGIC
BURST,
AFTER
ALL.

HOW
COME?

WHEN I
BECAME
AN ARCH-
PRIEST, I
LEARNED
ALL THE
AVAILABLE
SPELLS...

...NOT TO
MENTION SOME
WICKED PARTY
TRICKS.





...CASTING
EXPLOSION
MAGIC IS
MY SOLE
DESIRE!
MY LIFE'S
ONLY
GOAL!!

THOUGH
I CAN
USE IT
JUST
ONCE PER
DAY...

THOUGH
IT LEAVES
ME TOO
EXHAUSTED
TO MOVE...

WHAT NEED
HAVE I OF VAST
REWARDS? I AM A
MOST ECONOMICAL
ARCH-WIZARD!! AND
NOW YOU KNOW
WHO I TRULY AM,
KAZUMA-SAN—
HOW IS THAT
FOR A RE-
INTRODUCTION!?

I NEED
NO
OTHER
SKILLS!

TEAM
EXPLOSION

YOU
EXPECT
ME TO
KEEP
YOU
AROUND
WITH A
RESUME
LIKE
THAT!?

WAAH!
I'M AN
ARCH-
WIZARD!
ARE YOU
GONNA
THROW
ME
AWAY!?

GEE, THAT'S
SOMETHING.
GOOD LUCK
WITH THAT!

OH-HO!
HE'S
NEVER
SMILED
LIKE THAT
AT ANYONE
ELSE
BEFORE!





Look
at him!
Making
that
poor girl
cry...

**N-NO
OTHER
PARTY
WILL
TAKE
ME!**

He
got that
other girl all
covered in
foad slime
too!

WHAT A
PERV!

I
saw him
earlier
...

**PLEASE!
I'LL CARRY
YOUR BAGS!
I'LL DO
ANYTHING!
JUST DON'T
LEAVE ME
BEHIND!**

**EVEN
YOUR
BELOVED
"SLIME
PLAY"
IS NOT
BENEATH
M—**

**I-I'LL DO
ANYTHING
YOU WANT,
KAZUMAI!**

**HEYYY,
MEGUMINI!
WELCOME
BACK TO
THE TEAM!!**

**ALL
COVERED
IN...?**



That
was a
dirty
trick!!

WE'VE CONFIRMED
YOUR STATUS
OF THE LAST
TOUR.

...REMEMBER
HOW WHEN
WE GOT OUR
REWARD
EARLIER, THEY
PUT OUR
ADVENTURER
CARDS ON
THAT WEIRD
BOX?

DING!
DE-DE-DE-DE-DE

AND HOW
WHEN YOUR
LEVEL WENT
UP, YOU
GOT SOME
POINTS?

LEVEL 4 GETS YOU
THREE POINTS

SURE.
IT WAS
PRETTY
STRAIGHT-
FORWARD.

MAGE
IS SUCH
A TRIP

HOW
DO YOU
LEARN
SKILLS
ANYWAY?

HEY, AQUA
...

WELL...

KAZUMA,
YOU'RE AN
ADVENTURER

OH YEAH,
THE RE-
CEPTIONIST
GIRL SAID
THE SAME
THING.

LOOK
HERE

...SO YOU
CAN LEARN
SKILLS
FROM ANY
CLASS, IF
YOU'VE GOT
ENOUGH
POINTS.

THEN
YOU MOVE
THE POINTS
TO ONE
OF THE
AVAILABLE
SKILLS
DISPLAYED
ON YOUR
CARD.

RIGHT...
FIRST,
SOMEONE
HAS TO
DEMONSTRATE
THE SKILL
YOU WANT
TO LEARN.





MY
PLEASURE!

ESPECIALLY
FOR YOU

HUH. IT
REALLY
IS LIKE A
GAME.

FINE.
AQUA, YOU
TEACH ME
SOMETHING.



THEN,
FLIP THIS
SEED UP
INTO THE
CUP.

I DIDN'T
MEAN
TEACH ME
A DUMB
PARTY
TRICK!!

AMAZINGLY,
THE
INUNDATED
SEED WILL
BEGIN TO
SPROUT—



FIRST,
TAKE THIS
CUP OF
WATER...



WHA??

...AND
BALANCE
IT ON
YOUR
HEAD,
LIKE
SO.



I NEED
SOMETHING
EASY BUT
USEFUL!

LIKE
SOMETHING
THAT'LL KEEP
ME FROM
ENDING UP
COVERED IN
SLIME NEXT
TIME WE FIGHT
GIANT—

I
KNEW
IT!!

NO
WAY??

PERHAPS
YOU WOULD
RATHER WALK
THE PATH OF
THE EXPLOSION
WITH ME,
KAZUMA...

you're going to have
an angry peasant with
a sword over his head and
you'll not be

THAT'S
MY
BACK
STUCK





HOW ABOUT IT? MAY I JOIN YOUR PARTY!?

I MAY NOT LOOK LIKE MUCH, BUT I'M A CRUSADER, A HIGHLY-RANKED KNIGHT!



I SAW YOUR POST ON THE BOARD.

ARE YOU STILL LOOKING FOR PARTY MEMBERS?



OH, UH...I GUESS ...

PERFECT!



LOOK, THANKS FOR COMING OUT, BUT WE'RE ALREADY KIND OF A MESS, AND...

OH, UH...

WHAT IS THIS ...?



UHHH...

CRUSADER







PERSONALLY,
I RECOMMEND
YOU START
WITH STEAL.



OKAY,
LET'S
DIG
RIGHT
IN.



THIEF SKILLS
INCLUDE THINGS
LIKE STEALTH
AND ENEMY
DETECTION.

IT TAKES
ONE OF THE
TARGET'S
ITEMS AT
RANDOM.
VERY
USEFUL.

BUT
LET'S
TAKE
ONE
THING
AT A
TIME.

READY?



WHOA!



STEAL
!!

SHE'S
RIGHT.
IT LISTS
"STEAL"
NOW.

"THE
WONDERS
OF NATURE?"
IS THAT THE
TRICK? AGUA
SHOWED ME
EARLIER!

OH, HAH!
WONDERS
OF NATURE
TAKES, LIKE,
A ZILLION
POINTS!

LOOK
AT YOUR
ADVENTURER
CARD. IT'S
CHANGED,
RIGHT?

HEY, MY
WALLET!

OOH,
SCORE!

LUCKY
ME!

WHOO!

A-ALL
RIGHT. I
LEARNED
IT.

HOW
ABOUT
A LITTLE
CONTEST?

HEY!

CON-
TEST?

YOUR LUCK
INFLUENCES
HOW
OFTEN YOU
SUCCEED.

YOU GET
SOMETHING
WORTH
MORE THAN
THE WALLET,
YOU WIN.
WORTH
LESS, YOU
LOSE.

WHAT
DO YOU
SAY?

WHATEVER
YOU COME
UP WITH,
YOU KEEP
IT, AND I'LL
KEEP THIS
PAPER-THIN
WALLET.

TRY
YOUR NEW
STEAL
SKILL
ON ME.

OKAY!

BY
THE WAY,
THERE'S A
CONSOLATION
PRIZE—
THESE ROCKS
I FOUND
AROUND
HERE!

ALL
RIGHT!

NO
MONEY
IN THAT
WALLET
ANYWAY

WHO
WANTS
SOME
DIRTY
ROCKS
!?

NO
WHINING,
NOW—
NO
MATTER
WHAT I
STEAL!

IT JUST
SHOWS
THERE'S A
COUNTER TO
EVERY SKILL.
LESSON
LEARNED?

WHY,
YOU...
YOU
TRICKED
ME INTO
DOING
THIS...

WELL,
IF THIS
SKILL
IS ALL
ABOUT
LUCK...

NOW—
COME AT
ME!

STEAL!!

HERE I GO!



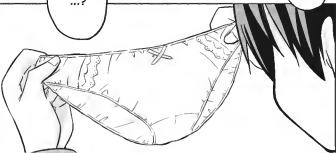
STEAL!!

HERE I GO!



THE HECK ...?

THE HECK ...?





**WHOO-
HOOOO!!
THE SCORE
OF A
LIFETIME!**

**AWW,
NOO!
GIMME
MY
PANTIES
BACK!**



WOWWWW!



TOOK
YOU LONG
ENOUGH.

IT'S
ALL
TRUE
...

IT WAS
BAD ENOUGH
YOUR LEADER
STOLE MY
PANTIES, BUT
THEN HE HELD
THEM HOSTAGE
TILL I GAVE
HIM ALL MY
MONEY...



NOT
SHOW
ME!

WHA-
-A!
SHOW
ME THE
WONDERS
OF
NATURE
AHEAD!

HE'S
BACK.



WHAT A CAD...

SEE YA!
BYE,
DARK-
NESS!

HA-
HA-HA!
I'LL GET
YOU NEXT
TIME.

HEY,
I REMEM-
BER... WELL, IT'S
TRUE, BUT...



STEAL
!!



SO,
KAZUMA...
WERE YOU
ABLE TO
LEARN
ANYTHING?

HM? HEH-
HEH-HEH...
ALL KINDS
OF THINGS.
WATCH
THIS!



HAIR
OF
-5-5-

HUH?



THAT'S WEIRD.
IT'S SUPPOSED
TO BE
RANDOM...

AHEN...

I FEEL
RATHER
COLD NOW.
PLEASE
RETURN
THOSE TO
ME...

LOOKS LIKE MY
PARTIED CLAPPIN'
IS PERFECT...



PLEASE...
LET ME
JOIN YOUR
PARTY!

O! YOU
WHO
WOULD
DEPARTS
A YOUNG
GIRL IN
PUBLIC!

I
KNEW
I'D
JUDGED
TRULY!



WHAT'S WITH THESE TWO? "JUST SAY NO" IS PRACTICALLY ROLLING OFF THIS GIRL!



"DARKNESS," RIGHT? AND, MEGUMIN, THIS GOES FOR YOU TOO.





I KNOW
EXACTLY
WHAT
YOU'RE
TALKING
ABOUT!

FROM TIME
IMMEMORIAL,
IT HAS BEEN
THE ROLE OF
THE LADY
KNIGHT TO BE
THE EROTIC
PLAYTHING OF
THE DEMON
KING!

THAT
ALONE IS
REASON
ENOUGH
FOR ME
TO JOIN.

INDEED, I
WELCOME
IT!



THAT'S WHY
WE BECAME
ADVENTURERS!

WHICH
MEANS THE
ADVENTURES
TO COME
WON'T
BE KIND TO
YOU!

DARK-
NESS—
YOU'RE
A LADY
KNIGHT! DO
YOU KNOW
WHAT THE
DEMON KING
WOULD DO
TO YOU
IF HE
CAPTURED
YOU?



HM?

WHAT?

HUH?

URGENT
QUEST?

THIS
IS AN
URGENT
QUEST!

UM,
KAZUMA...
ALL THAT
STUFF YOU
SAID?
I'M SUPER
SCARED
NOW.

ISN'T
THERE
AN EASIER
WAY TO
BEAT THE
DEMON
KING?

YOU WERE
THE ONE
WHO
WANTED
TO TAKE
HIM ON IN
THE FIRST
PLACE!!

ALL
ADVENTURERS,
PLEASE
GATHER AT THE
ADVENTURERS
GUILD
IMMEDIATELY.

I
REPEAT
...

HUH?
CABBAGE
?

WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?

IT'S
ALMOST
TIME
FOR THE
HARVEST,
ISN'T IT?

HUH.

THIS
MUST BE
ABOUT THE
CABBAGE.



THEY'RE
QUITE FULL
THIS YEAR—
YOU'LL GET
10,000 ERIS
FOR EACH
HEAD YOU
COLLECT!

GOOD LUCK
WITH THE
HARVEST,
EVERYONE!



EVERYONE,
THE CABBAGE
HARVEST HAS
COME AROUND
AGAIN!



IT'S
A BONUS
QUEST!
COME ON,
LET'S GO!

LET'S RUN—!!

ME
TOO!

FINALLY,
A QUEST
WITH A
LITTLE
PROFIT!
DON'T
WAIT UP!

ALL RIGHT!
I'VE BEEN
WAITING ALL
YEAR FOR
THIS!



BY THE
WAY,
KAZUMA,
ABOUT
THE
CABBAGES
IN THIS
WORLD...

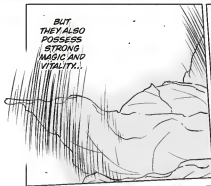


I CAME ALL
THIS WAY FOR
AGRICULTURE
...?



...CRUNCHY
AND FULL
OF FIBER...

THEY'RE
RICH AND
FRAGRANT...



BUT
THEY ALSO
POSSESS
STRONG
MAGIC AND
VITALITY...



...AND THE
FLAVOR IS
INTOXICATING.



THESE
CABBAGES...

...AND FLY
ACROSS THE
COUNTRY
TO LIVE OUT
THEIR LIVES
IN A SECRET
PLACE BEYOND
THE SEA.

...WON'T
END UP
ON YOUR
PLATE
WITHOUT A
FIGHT!

GEEZ!
WHAT A
GOOD-
FOR-
NOTHING
WORLD!

SCREEN
TUTU!

BEESY MAMMA





NO ONE
CAN STAND
AGAINST MY
EXPLOSION
SPELL.

NOT AT
ALL...IN
FACT, MY
ATTACKS
NEVER LAND.
A HUMAN
SHIELD IS
THE MOST I
CAN ASPIRE
TO BE.

WAY
TO GO,
DARKNESS!
YOU REALLY
ARE A
CRUSADER!

BUT
KAZUMA
PUT THAT
NEW SKILL
OF HIS
TO GOOD
USE.

IT WAS
MEGUMIN
WHO USED HER
MAGIC TO TAKE
OUT ALL THOSE
MONSTERS
THAT HAD COME
TO COLLECT THE
CABBAGES...

THOSE
VEGETABLES
DIDN'T STAND
A CHANCE
AGAINST
YOUR IRON
DEFENSE!



AND
DARKNESS
IS TOTALLY
ACTING LIKE
SHE'S ALWAYS
BEEN A
MEMBER OF
OUR PARTY...

AREN'T
WE ALL
JUST
BUDDY-
BUDDY...?



YOU SAVED
ME WHEN
MONSTERS
AND CABBAGES
ALIKE WERE
GANGLING UP
ON ME.

THOUGH, YOU
COULDN'T LET THEM
GO ON A LITTLE
LONGER.



I
THANK
YOU,
KAZUMA.



OUR PARTY
HAS SO MANY
GREAT PEOPLE
NOW!

WELCOME ABOARD,
BARRENBOY!

WHAT A
BABE.

I HATE
TO LET
THAT GET
AWAY, BUT
I'M STILL
GONNA
HAVE TO
LEAVE
HER OUT
OF THE
PARTY...

WHAT'RE
YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?

YOU
DON'T
GET TO
MAKE
THAT
CALL!



WHAT
!?

IF YOU
DON'T LIKE
IT, THEN NO
CABBAGE-
HARVESTING
REWARD
FOR YOU,
KAZUMA!

HEY,
DIDN'T
WE ALL
COM-
PLETE
THIS
QUEST
TOGETH-
ER?



GIMME!

YOU
LITTLE..!

STEAL
!!

NEENER, NEENER!

CALM
DOWN.
THERE'S
NO NEED
TO FI—

WHY, YOU
SELF-
IMPORTANT
—!

BUSMAN
COLLAPSED?

グ
ラ

...

HUH?

DON'T
LOOK AT
ME LIKE
THAT!
STOP!

I-I
CAN'T
CONTROL
WHAT I
GET!

CRUSADER

TOOL
CND

AND
THUS, WE
GAINED AN
ADVANCED-
CLASS
KNIGHT...
AND
MASOCHIST.

I MAY BE
A USELESS
CRUSADER
WHOSE
ATTACKS
NEVER HIT,
BUT I CAN'T
WAIT TO WORK
WITH YOU!

PLEASE,
HIDE BEHIND
ME AT ANY
TIME!

I KNEW
I LOVED
THIS
PARTY!





HOW
DO I
LOOK?

OOOH!

CLOTHES
REALLY
DO MAKE
THE
MAN...

DARN
STRAIGHT!
I FINALLY
LOOK THE
PART OF AN
ADVENTURER.



FRANKLY,
YOU LOOKED
LIKE A CRIMINAL
WANDERING
AROUND
TOWN IN THAT
JOGGING
SUIT.

NOW YOU
FINALLY SEEM
LIKE SOMEONE
WORTHY OF
JOINING A PARTY
WITH THE GREAT
AQUA-SAM—



AWWW,
LOOK
WHO'S
ALL
GROWN-
UP!



WHAT DO
YOU THINK
YOU'RE
DOING, YOU
HIKINEET??

CREATE
WATER!

WAAAAAH!

OH-
HO...





MAGIC IS REAL IN THIS WORLD—
HOW COULD I NOT USE IT?



...TAUGHT ME TO WIELD A ONE-HANDED SWORD AND MAGIC, RESPECTIVELY.



WHO ARE YOU TO DUMP WATER ALL OVER A VENERABLE ARCH-PRIME—?



BUT DON'T
WORRY! ALL
MY SKILL
POINTS ARE
IN DEFENSIVE
ABILITIES.

AND
WE'VE
FOUNDED
SCHOOL

YOU
COULDN'T
TAKE
EVEN ONE
SWORDSMAN-
SHIP
SKILL?

EVEN
WITHOUT MY
ARMOR, I'M
TOUGHER
THAN THE
AVERAGE
CRUSADER!



DARKNESS...
WHAT
HAPPENED
TO YOUR
ARMOR?

HUH?
OH...

IT'S IN
THE SHED.
IT GOT
COVERED IN
CABBAGE
STAINS
DURING THE
HARVEST.



Y-YOU'RE
THINKING,
"FOR SUCH
A PIG, SHE
SURE IS
SEXY!" ...

AS IF

AND
J-JUST
WHAT
ARE YOU
L-LOOKING
AT?



SHE SURE
LOOKS NICE
WITHOUT
THE ARMOR,
THOUGH...





HUH?
SHEESH!
JUST WHAT
YOU'D EXPECT
FROM A
HIKINEET!

HRK...

WH-
WHY
NOT?

TOADS
ARE EASY
PREY, AND
WITH ENOUGH
OF THEM,
WE COULD
MAKE SOME
MONEY...

THERE'S
GOT TO
BE AN
EASIER
WAY
CHECK TO GET
THE
BOARD
FOR A
GOOD
QUEST.

A-AT
THE VERY
LEAST...
WE COULD
GET EATEN
AND
COVERED IN
SLIME...!

WHAT
!?



WE JUST
NEED TO
KNOCK OUT
A FEW
TOUGHER
QUESTS,
RAISE OUR
LEVELS A
BIT...

UNLIKE
YOU,
KAZUMA,
ALL OF
US ARE
HIGH-
RANK.

...AND
THEN IT'S
GOOD-BYE,
DEMON
KING!



I COULD'VE ASKED FOR ANYTHING— GREAT GEAR, SOME AMAZING ABILITY...

...BUT HOW WAS I SUPPOSED TO KNOW YOU'D BE THE DUMBEST, UNLUCKIEST, MOST USELESS ARCH-PRIEST IN THE WHOLE WORLD?!

...AND I ADMIT IT WAS MY FAULT FOR PICKING YOU INSTEAD ...



GUH?

...YOU.

YEAH, OUR PARTY IS GREAT... AT BRINGING A TOTAL DISAPPOINTMENT.



YEAH... IF HE HAD TO VERBALLY ABUSE A GIRL, WHY COULDN'T IT HAVE BEEN ME?

KAZUMA RATHER LACKS TACT, DOESN'T HE?

LISTEN UP, AQUA.



WAAAAH!

CAN THE BIG TALK AND LOOK AT YOURSELF!

ARE YOU AND YOUR PARTY TRICKS GONNA TAKE DOWN THE DEMON KING?

DEKA ISLAND



HUH...?
BUT YOU
TOLD US
YOU WERE
SET ON...

I HAVE
ZERO
INTEREST
IN STOPPING
THE DEMON
KING!

DID
NOT.



NOOO!
I WON'T
HAVE A
REASON
TO LIVE
ANYMORE
!

YOU
THINK
OF AN
EASY
WAY TO
MAKE
SOME
DOUGH!

ALSO,
TEACH
ME
YOUR
HEALING
MAGIC
!!

LOOK
AT THE
QUEST
REWARDS.
LIFE IS
CHEAP
AROUND
HERE!

SO
FORGET IT.
I'M GONNA
LIVE AS
SAFELY
AND AS
COMFORTABLY
AS I CAN!



UM...
ANYWAY.

IF YOU
WANT A
GOOD QUEST,
HOW ABOUT
HUNTING THE
UNDEAD?

LET'S
TALKED
THE NEXT
MORNING

YEAH...
PRIESTS
DON'T
HAVE MANY
OFFENSIVE
OPTIONS, WHICH
MAKES IT HARD
FOR THEM TO
LEVEL UP.

BUT
UNHALLOWED
CREATURES LIKE
THE UNDEAD
TAKE DAMAGE
FROM HEALING
MAGIC, SO IT'LL
BE PERFECT
FOR YOU,
AGUA.

UNDEAD
...?

DON'T LIKE
THE SOUND
OF THAT

HANG
ON...

IF
YOUR
STATS
RISE WITH
YOUR
LEVEL,
THEN...

I DUNNO.
YOU THINK A
FEW LEVELS
WOULD EVEN
HELP THIS
USELESS
GODDESS?

ON
SECOND
THOUGHT,
YOU'RE
RIGHT.
LET'S
GO.

...
MAYBE
HER
INTELLIGENCE
WILL GO
UP A BIT,
AND SHE
CAN LEARN
TO MAKE
HERSELF
USEFUL.









**OWWW!
MY
EYES!!**

WIND BREATH

ALL
RIGHT!
I'VE
MASTERED
THE STARTER
MAGIC OF
ALL FOUR
ELEMENTS!

ANYONE
ELSE
FEEL A
CHILL?

IN THE VILLAGE OF THE CRIMSON MAGIC CLAN, NO ONE BOTHERS WITH LOW-LEVEL MAGIC, BUT IT SEEMS QUITE PRACTICAL.

1000

1. Introduction

WITH THE
STIPULATION
THAT WE
PUT ALL THE
ZOMBIES
BACK WHERE
THEY CAME
FROM TOO.

YEAR

HEY, KATLINA

THE
GUEST
CALLED FOR
US TO DEFEAT
SOME ZOMBIE
MAKERS,
RIGHT?



ZOMBIE
MAKERS ARE
EVIL SPIRITS
THAT ENTER
CORPSES
AND TAKE
CONTROL OF
ZOMBIES.



THIS
GUY



GOOD
THING CHRIS
TAUGHT ME
THAT ENEMY-
DETECTION
SKILL.

THERE'S
SOMETHING
OVER THAT
HILL.



RIGHT.
I HEARD
EVEN LOW-
LEVEL PARTIES
CAN HANDLE
THEM, IF
THEY'RE
CAREFUL.



ONE...
TWO...
THREE...
FOUR...
FIVE...?

ONE...
TWO...

HUH?
THAT'S
STRANGE
...

I HEARD
ZOMBIE
MAKERS
COULD
CONTROL
ONLY TWO
OR THREE
ZOMBIES AT
A TIME.



WHAT'S
THAT...?

A ZOMBIE
MAKER?



!



HUMP
AQUA,
WHAT'RE
YOU—?

HOLD
IT RIGHT
THERE,
YOU!!

AHHH!!
IT'S
HER!



OWWW ...

**CURSED
LICH! YOUR
LUCK HAS
RUN OUT!!**



THAT
SOUNDS
REALLY
FAMILIAR...

LICH
...?

HUH
?



**EEEEK!!
WHO ARE
YOUUUUU?**

**I'M
GONNA
GIVE YOU
WHAT'S
COMING
TO YOU!!**



THAT
CIRCLE HELPS
LOST SOULS
FIND THEIR
WAY BACK
TO HEAVEN!

WITHOUT
IT, THIS
CEMETERY WILL
BE OVERRUN
WITH THE
RESTLESS
DEAAAAD!!



JUST
WHAT
THE HECK
IS THIS,
HUH?

WHAT ARE
YOU DOING
MAKING A
WEIRD MAGIC
CIRCLE WITH
ALL THESE
UNDEAD
AROUND?

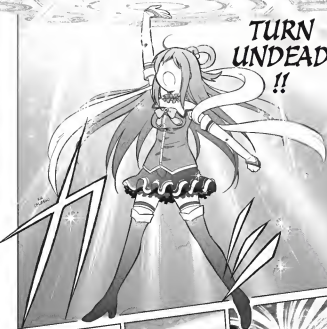
STOP
HIT!
YOU'LL
BREAK
HIT!



YOU
PUT ON
A PRETTY
GOOD
NICE-GIRL
ACT, LICH!

BUT I'VE
GOT A
SOLUTION
FOR YOUR
"LOST
SOULS"...

**TURN
UNDEAD
!!**





**EEEE!
I'M
DISAP-
PEARING
!**



**HUH
...?**



**STOP IT!
I'M NOT
READY TO
MOVE ON!**



**DON'T
WORRY,
FOOLISH
LICH!**

**I'M
GONNA
WIPE
YOU OUT
WITHOUT
A TRA—**





UM...
TH-THIS IS
A COMMUNAL
GRAVEYARD.
MOST OF THOSE
BURIED HERE
DIED PALPERS
AND COULDN'T
AFFORD A
PROPER FUNERAL.

UNABLE TO
REACH HEAVEN,
THEY WANDER
HERE EVERY
NIGHT...



KAZUMA,
DON'T TALK
TO HER.
SHE'LL TURN
YOU INTO
AN UNDEAD!

WIZ...
WHAT
WERE YOU
DOING
IN THIS
CEMETERY
?

QUIET,
YOU.



THAT'S
ADMIRABLE
AND ALL,
BUT...

...
SHOULDN'T
YOU LET
THE LOCAL
PRIESTS
HANDLE
IT?

HMPH!



SO
I COME
HERE
REGULARLY
TO HELP
THEM
GET TO
HEAVEN.

I'M A
LICH, SO
I KNOW
HOW THEY
FEEL.



...AND
THE
CLERGY
RARELY
COME
TO THIS
PLACE.

WELL,
YOU SEE...
THE
PRIESTS IN
THIS TOWN,
THEY...
THEY
REALLY
ONLY CARE
ABOUT
MONEY.
THE
POOR
GO
FOR-
GOTTEN
...



ALL
RIGHT, I
THINK I
GET IT.

BUT
COULD YOU
STOP MAKING
ALL THESE
ZOMBIES?

WE
THOUGHT
WE WERE
HUNTING
A ZOMBIE
MAKER WHEN
WE CAME
HERE, YOU
KNOW.

OH...
I
SEE...

HEY!
I'M NOT!

FOLLOWERS
OF THE
ALMIGHTY
ERIS, HUH?

SO THE
PRIESTS
DELIBERATELY
AVOID
HOLDING
FUNERALS
FOR THE
POOR...

THE
CORPSES
SIMPLY
REACT TO
MY MAGIC
POWER.

BUT
I'M NOT
ACTUALLY
CALLING
THESE
LITTLE
ONES.

THAT
STINKING
LICH! IF
I EVER
SEE HER
AGAIN, I'LL
GIVE HER A
TASTE OF
MY SPECIAL
GOD STRIKE
ATTACK!

YAAARGH!

WHY DO
I HAVE TO
GO THERE
REGULARLY
TO TAKE
CARE OF THE
LUNDEAD?

WHAT'S
THE
PROBLEM?
WHAT ELSE
HAVE YOU
GOT TO
DO?

I'M
GLAD
THINGS
DIDN'T
TURN UGLY
THOUGH.

LICHES ARE
LORDS AMONG
THE UNDEAD.
HUMAN MAGES
WHO MASTERED
THE LIMITS OF
MAGIC AND THEN
ABANDONED
THEIR NATURAL
BODIES.

THEIR
MAGIC ATTACK
AND DEFENSE
ARE ABSOLUTE.
NORMAL
WEAPONS CAN'T
TOUCH THEM.

IN
ADDITION,
THEY CAN
STEAL AN
OPPONENT'S
MAGIC AND
VITALITY JUST
BY TOUCHING
THEM. TRULY,
THEY ARE
LEGENDARY
FOES.

IF IT HAD
COME TO A
FIGHT, YOU
AND ME
WOULD'VE
BEEN DEAD
FOR SURE.

HUH? ARE
LICHES THAT
DANGEROUS?!



GOOD
MORNING!



HEY!
MORNIN',
WIZ!

YOU'RE
UP EARLY.
STOCKING
UP?



YOU
LOOK
CHIPPY
TODAY!

SOMETHING
GOOD
HAPPEN?

OH, YES!
JUST A
LITTLE
PROBLEM
RESOLVED.

WELL,
GOOD
FOR YOU.

I'LL BE
BY THE
SHOP
LATER.

YES,
GIRL
SEE
YOU!



BY
THE
WAY
...

...WHERE
DOES THIS
LEAVE OUR
ZOMBIE
MAKER
QUEST?

OH
...

QUEST
FAILED.

God's
BLESSING
ON THIS
WONDERFUL
WORLD!



1



**GOD'S
BLESSING
ON THIS
WONDERFUL
WORLD!**



❖ CHAPTER 4 ❖

MAY THERE BE GUIDANCE ON-THIS EXPLOSIVE PATH!





I HAVE
HERE MY
BRAND-NEW
MANATITE
STAFF,
VERTABLY
THROBBING
WITH MAGIC
POWER!

HOW I
LONG TO
TEST ITS
PERCUSSIVE
POTENTIAL
WITH A
BLAST OF
EXPLOSION
MAGIC...!



YOU
MAY BE
SATISFIED
BEING
A LAZY
BUM, BUT
NOT I!

TO
MASTER
EXPLOSION
MAGIC, I MUST
CONTINUALLY
REFINE MY
TECHNIQUE,
TESTING MYSELF
IN BATTLE
EVERY DAY!



I KNOW
YOU. YOU
JUST WANT
TO LET
ONE OFF.

A MAGICAL
EXPLOSION



BESIDES, MOPPING
UP MONSTERS NEAR
TOWN WILL CONTRIBUTE
TO PUBLIC SAFETY. WE
MAY NOT MAKE MONEY,
BUT CONSIDER THE
SATISFACTION
OF HELPING
THE TOWN!

CHIEF



W
H
A
A
A
A
T
!?



ANYWAY,
I HEARD
THERE AREN'T
ANY MONSTERS
AROUND RIGHT
NOW.



THIS
CAN'T BE ALL
I HAVE LEFT
FROM THE
CABBAGE
HARVEST!

I
TOOK
MORE HEADS
THAN A
WARLORD
ON A
RAMPAGE!

I-
I'M VERY
SORRY TO
T-TELL
YOU THIS,
BUT...

WHAT!?
DO YOU
MEAN,
THIS IS
IT!?



MOST
OF THE
PLANTS YOU
BROUGHT
BACK WERE
LETTUCE.

SADLY,
LETTUCE
JUST
DOESN'T
PAY AS
MUCH.

THEY
ARE
PAYING
LETTUCE
TOO?



A
M-M-
M—

I, FOR ONE,
BROUGHT BACK
PLENTY OF FINE
SPECIMENS OF
CABBAGE.

LUCK IS A
SKILL TOO!

DON'T
WASTE
YOUR
BREATH.
I'M NOT
SHAR-
ING.

K-KAZUMA-
SAN, YOU'VE
ALWAYS
BEEN PRETTY
MUCH JUST
THE NICEST
PERSON
I'VE EVER
MET...

TEE-
HEE!



KA...

YOU
GOT
PILES OF
MONEY
FROM
THAT
REWARD,
RIGHT?

KAZUMA-
SAAAA!

A COOL
MILLION.



KAZUMA-
SAAAA!

WEREN'T
YOU THE
ONE WHO
SAID
EVERYONE
GETS
WHAT THEY
EARN...?

ARRR
UH!

PLEASE
LEND ME
SOME
MONEY—
I'M
BEGGING
YOU!

I RAN UP
A TAB AT
THE BAR
ON THAT
REWARD!



THE
QUESTS
ARE ALL
LIKELY TO BE
HIGH-LEVEL
UNTIL A
SQUAD GETS
HERE FROM
THE CAPITAL
TO DEAL
WITH THE
MATTER...

Y-
YOU SEE...
IT SEEMS
ONE OF THE
DEMON KING'S
GENERALS
HAS TAKEN
UP RESIDENCE
NEARBY...

...SO
ALL THE
WEAKER
MONSTERS
IN THE AREA
HAVE GONE
INTO HIDING.

HOW AM
I GONNA
MAKE ANY
MONEY...?

N-NO
WAY...

QUEST

クエスト
04B





NO ONE
IN TOWN
SEEMS
ESPECIALLY
WORRIED
ABOUT
THE DEMON
KING'S
ARMY...



BUT
WHAT IS THE
DEMON KING'S
GENERAL
DOING AROUND
HERE?



THIS
WON'T
DO. WE
MUST GO
FARTHER.

RIGHT.

HOW
ABOUT
HERE? FIRE
AT WILL,
AND LET'S
GO HOME.



HAVEN'T
YOU EVER
WANTED TO
LEARN SOME
OTHER
MID-LEVEL
MAGIC?



WE MUST
CONSIDER
POTENTIAL
DAMAGE TO
THE TOWN.



EXPLOSION
MAGIC IS A
COMPLEX BLEND
OF SKILLS
INCLUDING
HIGH-SPEED
INCANTATION,
AMONG
OTHERS.





I
DIDN'T
EVEN
KNOW
IT WAS
THERE.

ISN'T IT...
SUPPOSED
TO BE
ABANDONED
...?



PLACE
GIVES
ME THE
HEEBIE-
JEEBIES,
THOUGH.

LOOKS
LIKE IT
MIGHT BE
HAUNTED.

**PERFECT!
LET US
USE IT!**



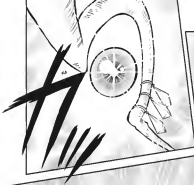
ARE YOU
SURE?

THIS
CASTLE'S
LUCK
RAN OUT
THE DAY
IT MET
ME.

THIS
ABANDONED
BUILDING IS
IDEAL FOR MY
PRACTICE! NO
MATTER HOW
LITTERLY
I DESTROY
IT, NO ONE
WILL GET
UPSET!

**NOW
I SHALL
SHOW IT
MY TRUE
POWER
!!**

SHINJI
CHAMBER



EXPLOSION!!





SURE...
I COULD
SEE DOING
THIS FOR
A FEW
DAYS.

I LOOK
FORWARD
TO...DOING
THIS AGAIN
TOMORROW,
KAZUMA...



FULL
MARKS FOR
PRESENTATION
AND SHEER
DESTRUCTIVE
POWER.

H-
HOW
WAS
THAT
...?



AND
SO, EACH
DAY...



...
WE CAME
TO THE
ABANDONED
CASTLE...



....AND
SLAMMED
IT WITH
ANOTHER
EXPLOSION.



BEFORE
I KNEW
IT, I HAD
LEARNED TO
TELL HOW
GOOD THE
DAY'S BLAST
HAD BEEN.



I ADMIT
IT SOUNDS
INTERESTING.
I'LL THINK
ABOUT IT.

PERHAPS
YOU'D LIKE
TO TRY
MASTERING
IT
YOURSELF?

YOU
COULD FEEL
THE SHOCK
WAVE
IN YOUR BONES!

THAT WAS
SOME BANG
YESTERDAY!

AW,
YEAH!

I SEE
YOU'VE
LEARNED
A BIT
ABOUT THE
EXPLOSIVE
PATH,
KAZUMA.



URGENT
ANNOUNCE-
MENT!

URGENT
ANNOUNCE-
MENT!

HM?

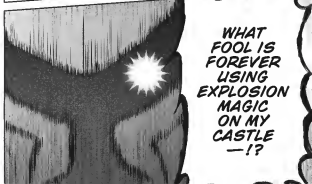
IT IS
STRANGE
THOUGH...NO
MATTER HOW
MANY TIMES
I HIT IT,
THAT CASTLE
NEVER
COLLAPSES.

IT'S
DOING
MORE
DAMAGE TO
MY PRIDE
THAN THAT
BUILDING.













OH-HO...
ONE OF
THOSE
CRIMSON
MAGIC CLAN
PEOPLE
WITH THEIR
WEIRD
NAMES.

WHAT
WAS
THAT
CRACK
ABOUT
MY
NAME!?

TELL
ME!!
WHY
DO YOU
TORMENT
ME SO?



Y-
YES!

I SEE
YOU'VE
FALLEN
INTO
MY
TRAP,
VILE
ONE!

I AM THE
CRIMSON
MAGIC
CLAN
MEMBER
MEGUMINI!

I
USED MY
EXPLOSION
MAGIC
CONTINUALLY
IN ORDER TO
DRAW YOU OUT,
AND YOU'VE
COME!

Ugh



SO REFRAIN
FROM YOUR
BLASTED
EXPLOSIONS,
UNDERSTAND!?

I AM IN
THAT CASTLE
TEMPORARILY,
AS PART OF AN
INVESTIGATION.
SO LONG AS
YOU DO NOT
INTERFERE, I
WILL LEAVE
YOU BE.

HMPH.
NEVER
MIND.
TODAY, I
COME ONLY
WITH A
WARNING.

HMM...
HE SAYS
HE'S ONE OF
THE DEMON
KING'S
GENERALS...

...BUT
HE SURE
DOESN'T
LOOK LIKE
MUCH.

GAAAAH!

SHH!
SHH!

I'VE
NEVER
HEARD
SUCH A
RIDICULOUS
THING!
DON'T
LIE TO
ME!

I
SHALL
NOT!

CRIMSON
MAGIC CLAN
FOLK MUST
LET OFF ONE
EXPLOSION
PER DAY, OR
WE DIE!

IT
SEEMS
YOU WILL
NOT CEASE
CAUSING
TROUBLE
FOR ME.

YOU'RE
THE ONE
CAUSING
TROUBLE!

IN THAT
CASE, I
HAVE AN
IDEA...





WH-
WHAT
IF?

ONE
WEEK
FROM
NOW,
YOUR
CRUSADER
FRIEND
WILL
DIE!

NOT
QUITE
WHAT I
PLANNED,
BUT VERY
WELL...
CRIMSON
MAGIC
GIRL!

UNTIL
THEN, SHE
CAN STEW
IN THE
TERROR
OF HER
IMPENDING
DEMISE...

N...NOT A
SCRATCH...

DARKNESS!
ARE
YOU ALL
RIGHT?!

**BWA-
HA-HA-
HA-HA!**

**I-IN
OTHER
WORDS**
...

...YOU
WANT US TO
AGREE TO
WHATEVER
AWFUL THING
YOU DEMAND
WE DO IN
ORDER TO LIFT
THE CURSE!
IS THAT
IT?

HOW
IRONIC
FOR TWO
SUCH DEAR
COMPAN-
IONS!

LOOK
UPON YOUR
FRIEND'S
DESPAIR
AND LOATHE
YOURSELF
FOR HAVING
OPPOSED
ME!

HA
HA
HA

HUH?

WH-
WHY,
YOU...

7
12
16



HRR...
K
KLL
ME

H-
HANG ON
A MOMENT
...

HRR...
I AM
DAUNTED
BY NO CURSE...

THOSE ARE
THE EYES OF
ONE WHO WOULD
TAKE ME TO HIS
CASTLE AS HIS
PRISONER AND
MAKE ME DO ALL
KINDS OF FREAKY,
HARDCORE HENTAI
STUFF IF I WANT
TO BREAK THIS
CURSE!

...BUT
LOOK,
KAZUMA!

LOOK
AT THE
TERRIBLE
EYES
BURNING
WITHIN THAT
DULLAHAN'S
HELM!

WHAAAAAT
!?

THERE-
FORE,
I COME,
MASTER!

UHM...
THAT'S
NOT
WHAT
I...

STOP IT!
THAT'S
CLEARLY
NOT WHAT
HE HAS
IN MIND!

I
MUSTN'T
GO! I
WOULD NOT
GO! AND
YET—I
HAVE NO
CHOICE.

A
CAPTURED
LADY FAIR...
A SCENE
TO SET
THE HEART
AFIRE...

SOOO
DULLAHAN!

UHS
UHS



YOU,
CRIMSON
MAGIC
GIRL, QUIT
BLOWING
UP MY
CASTLE!

BUT
PLEASE
...



A-
ANYWAY...

...DO SHOW
UP THERE
IF YOU WISH
TO BREAK
THE CURSE!

IF
YOU CAN
DEFEAT MY
UNDEAD
SERVANTS
AND
REACH ME,
I SHALL
LIFT IT!!





I'M
GOING
TO THAT
CASTLE
TO LIFT
DARKNESS'S
CURSE!

BY
YOURSELF?
WHAT WILL
YOU DO AFTER
YOU USE
YOUR ONE
EXPLOSION
ON SOME
SMALL-FRY
MINION?!



H-HEY!
MEGLUM!



THIS
IS MY
FAULT.



WHERE
ARE YOU
GOING?



AWWWW,
MAN. I
GUESS
I CAN'T
JUST LEAVE
'EM BY
THEMSELVES
...

FINE.
I'M
GOING
TOO.



I'M SORRY
I TEASED YOU
BEFORE. AS
A KNIGHT, IT
WOULD BE TO
MY SHAME
TO RELY ON
SOMEONE ELSE
TO LIFT MY
OWN CURSE.

WAIT!
I'LL
JOIN
YOU

DARKNESS
...





A
DULLAHAN'S
LITTLE
CURSES
DON'T STAND
A CHANCE
AGAINST
ME!

THERE
YOU GO,
DARKNESS!
ALL
BETTER!

HOW
ABOUT THAT?
I CAN TOTALLY
ACT LIKE A
REAL PRIEST
SOMETIMES!



WHADDAYA
THINK?
HUH?
HUH?

...WHY'S
EVERYONE
SO QUIET?



WHAT IS
KEEPING
THEM?

God's
BLESSING
ON THIS
WONDERFUL
WORLD!



1



**GOD'S
BLESSING
ON THIS
WONDERFUL
WORLD!**



◆ CHAPTER 5 ◆

MAY THERE BE SALVATION FOR THIS MISERABLE GODDESS!





CHECK
THIS OUT!
I'VE GOT
SOMETHING
GOOD!



...AQUA'S
AWESOME,
MIRACLE
HOLY WATER!
I MADE IT
MYSELF.

HUH?

I PLAN
TO SELL IT
AS FAST AS
I CAN MAKE
IT.

OH,
SAVE IT.
JUST
LOOK AT
THIS!
LOOK!



HEY, MAYBE
YOU COULD
CALM DOWN
AT MEAL-
TIME, AT
THE VERY
LEAST...

HEH-HEH!
YOU ARE
HOLDING

...



WHAT
AM I
LOOKING
AT?
WHAT'S
IN
HERE?



HA HA HA HA HA!
HA HA HA HA HA!
HA HA HA HA HA!

WHAT'S WITH HER?

AFTER ALL,
I AM AQUA,
WORSHIPPED
BY THE AXIS
CHURCH OF
THIS WORLD
AND GODDESS
OF WATER!

MY VERY
TOUGH CAN
TURN TOILET
WATER AS
PURE AS A
MOUNTAIN
STREAM!

TOILET
WATER
...?

YOU...
MADE
THIS?
IT'S NOT
WATER
IS IT?

SURE
DID!
DON'T BE
DUMB!

TOILET
WATER
...?

TOILET
WATER
...?



I'LL BE
ABLE TO
REPAY MY
BAR TAB
AND LIVE
A LIFE OF
LEISURE!

OH...
I AM
SOOO
SMART!

I
ALMOST
FORGOT
SHE'S A
GODDESS

SO THIS IS
BASICALLY...
YOUR
BROTH?

PLEASE!
DON'T TALK
AS IF I'M
SOME KIND
OF MEAT.

BESIDES,
WE DON'T
EVEN NEED TO
INVEST TO MAKE
IT—WATER IS
FREE! IT'S
ALL PROFIT,
RIGHT?





ALL
RIGHT!
STEP
RIGHT
UP!

MIRACULOUS!
FANTABULOUS!
THE AXIS CHURCH
GUARANTEES
YOU'LL LOVE THIS
AMAZING AQUA
WATER! ACT
NOW FOR YOUR
SPECIAL PRICE!



YEAH,
WEIRD
...

AH,
MAN,
WE
HAVEN'T
SOLD A
SINGLE
BOTTLE!



C'MON,
KAZUMA-
SAN,
SELL!
SELL!

WE'RE IN THIS
TOGETHER!

OH...
RIGHT.





ME
TOO, O
LORD
OF
WATER!

HA-
HA-HA!
OF
COURSE,
OF
COURSE.

MAY
I HAVE
SOME TOO,
MILORD?



WHAT
ARE WE
GONNA
DO WITH
ALL
THIS
STOCK!?

THEY HAVEN'T
DEVELOPED
WATER
PURIFICATION
TECHNOLOGY IN
THIS WORLD, SO
THESE THINGS
SHOULD SELL
ALL RIGHT...

O,
LORD OF
WATER!
GRANT
ME TO
DRINK!

HUH?
?



WOWWWW!

CREATE
WATER!



!!!

!!!



HE
ABANDONED
THAT PATH,
BUT NOT
BEFORE
LEARNING
SOME
LOW-LEVEL
MAGIC.

NOW HE
SPENDS HIS
TIME GIVING
WATER FOR
FREE TO
ANYONE WHO
NEEDS IT.



EXCUSE
ME, MISS.

JUST
WHO
IS THIS
"LORD
OF
WATER"?



OH...
HE USED
TO ASPIRE
TO BE A
MAGE.



HEY,
YOU.

AH.
DO YOU
ALSO
SEEK TO
QUENCH
YOUR
THIR—?



"LORD OF
WATER" IS
JUST WHAT
PEOPLE
NATURALLY
STARTED
CALLING
HIM.

WHA?



WHO DO
YOU THINK
YOU ARE,
GIVING
WATER
AWAY FOR
FREE!?

IF
YOU'RE
GONNA
MAKE
WATER,
AT LEAST
SELL IT
AND GIVE
A CUT TO
THE AXIS
CHURCH!

W-
WAIT,
PLEASE.
WHO
ARE—?

GLUGGH
!?

YARRRGH!
SOMEBODY
STOP
HER!

COME
TO THINK OF
IT, EVEN I
KNOW THAT
SPELL...



ALL
RIGHT, SO
I GAVE
UP ON
SELLING
WATER.

THIS
TIME, I'M
GOING
TO SELL
SOMETHING
THAT REALLY
TAKES TIME
AND EFFORT
TO CRAFT!

ADMIRABLE.
SO...

LOOK!

...
WHAT'VE
YOU GOT
THIS
TIME?

SOAP
THAT I
MADE
WITH MY
UNIQUE
TALENTS!

NOW,
NOW.
GOOD
SOAP
REQUIRES
GOOD, PURE
WATER.

SO
SOAP
MADE WITH
MY WATER
SHOULD
BE OF
EXCEPTIONAL
QUALITY,
NO?

SOAP
...?

YOU AND
YOUR WEIRD
IDEAS. YOU
THINK THIS
WILL SELL?



FINE.
BUT WHO
USES
SOAP
AROUND
HERE?

NEEDS
SAP
TOO.

WHATEVER!
I'VE
ALREADY
GOT A
BUNCH OF
ORDERS.



HERE'S
THE "SPIRITS
OF THE
SEASONS"
SERIES,
AND THE
"KNIGHTS OF
THE CAPITAL"
SERIES...

I'VE
GOT
OTHERS
TOO!

WHOA!
AWE-
SOME!

THIS IS
SOAP?!



UM,
WELL...

WHICH
SERIES
IS MOST
POPULAR?

HEY...
YOU SAID
YOU'VE
SOLD A
BUNCH.



BEAUTIFUL
WOMEN
SELL THE
BEST IN
GENERAL...

...BUT I
TOTALLY SOLD
OUT OF MY
DARKNESS
BATH SOAP.
THE MORE YOU
USE IT, THE
MORE HER
ARMOR Melts
OFF...

I
DON'T THINK
DARKNESS
WOULD BE
HAPPY TO
HEAR ABOUT
THAT...



HEY...
WHAT IF YOU
BECAME THE
GODDESS
OF ART AND
SUPPORTED
YOURSELF
THAT WAY
?

ME? I'M
NO ARTIST!
THAT'S
NOT HOW
I WANT TO
MAKE MY
MONEY!





ARMY OFFICER...
ABOUT
THAT
APRON...

IF YOU
USE MIA
THERE IN
THE BATH
THEN, BIT
BY BIT...

MELT?
OF
COURSE!
WHAT
ELSE
WOULD
FINE ART
DO?

C-COULD
IT BE...?
IS THIS
MY
BELOVED
MIA-SAN
FROM THE
BAKERY
?

WHOA...
YOU'VE
BROUGHT
HER TO
LIFE, RIGHT
DOWN TO THE
STITCHES
IN HER
APRON!

Chance

HUH? WELL,
YOU'D HAVE TO
APPLY WITH
THE PROPER
AGENCY, PAY
THE REQUIRED
FEE...

AWW,
THAT'S
SUCH A
DRAG!
CAN'T YOU
LET IT
SLIDE?

...I WOULD
LOVE TO SELL
THESE HERE.
ISN'T THERE
SOME WAY I
COULD...?

CERTAINLY!
BY THE
WAY...

OF COURSE,
I'D NEVER
USE THEM,
SINCE THEY'RE
ART, BUT I'LL
TAKE TWO!





YOU
KNOW, I'VE
ALWAYS HAD
PHILOSOPHICAL
OBJECTIONS TO
TRYING TO
CONTROL OTHER
PEOPLE'S
BEHAVIOR.

HERE—
IF YOU LET IT
GO, I'LL THROW
IN THIS VERY
POPULAR SOAP
OR...POLICE CHIEF
ALGERINA! HER
CLOTHES MELT
RIGHT OFF...

SAY...CAN YOU
MAKE TO ORDER?
I HAVE A FEW
CUTE COLLEAGUES
I'D LOVE TO
IMMORTALIZE IN
SOAP...

OOOH!
P-POLICE
CHIEF, HOW
IMMODEST
OF YOU...!



MISS
POLICE
OFFICER?
THEY'RE
THE
ONES.



I'VE
GOT AN
IDEA! YOU'RE
GONNA LOVE
THIS ONE.

HEYYY,
KAZUMAAA!



**FEAST
YOUR
EYES ON
THESE!**

P—!

N-
NO, NO, NO!
THIS PLAN
IS LOW-
RISK, HIGH-
REWARD,
I SWEAR!

WOULDN'T
IT BE EASIER
TO JUST
GET A JOB,
GODDESS OF
POVERTY?



NOPE—
LOTTERY
TICKETS!

WHAT
ARE
THESE?
BILLS?

FIRST
PRIZE IS
A MILLION
ERIS, AND
WE'RE
GONNA
WIN IT!



OF
COURSE
WE CAN!

AS
IF YOU
COULD
PLAN ON
THAT!



...OUT OF
CURIOSITY,
WHERE
EXACTLY
DID YOU
GET THESE
LOTTERY
TICKETS?

YOU GET
SO FEW
CHANCES TO
BE A PART OF
THINGS HERE.
OBSOLETELY,
YOU'LL JUMP
AT THIS ONE,
RIGHT?

AFTER ALL,
WE HAVE OUR
KAZUMA-
SAN, THE BOY
WHOSE ONLY
REDEEMING
QUALITY IS HIS
INCREDIBLE
LUCK...

FROM
SOME UPPER-
CRUST
TYPES. THEY
DON'T NEED
TO PLAY THE
LOTTERY
ANYWAY.



SO,
KAZUMA-
SAN,
YOU'RE
UP!

AHH...
THOSE
MILLION ERIS
ARE THE TOP
PRIZE, BUT
THE BOTTLE OF
OGRE KILLER
WINE FOR
SECOND PLACE
WOULD BE
PRETTY GOOD
TOO...



C'MON,
LET'S
GO!

KAZUMA-
SAMA!!

IT'S NOW
A WORLD
WHERE A
DEITY IS
ASKING A
HUMAN
FOR HELP,
HUN...?



カズマ
カズマ
カズマ

WE
HAVE A
WINNER!





A MYSTERIOUS
MAGICAL ITEM
BROUGHT HERE
FROM ANOTHER
WORLD!



EVEN OUR
VAUNTED RULER
COULDN'T COME
BY ONE EASILY!



WHAT'S
THE
SPECIAL
PRIZE,
GIRL?

OH-HO,
THE
SPECIAL
PRIZE?

IT'S
REALLY
SOME-
THING!



YOU
SURE?
I HAVEN'T
EVEN
GOTTEN
FIRST-
PLACE...

*THAT'S
IT,
KAZUMA!
WIN IT
FOR
US!*



WHO KNOWS
HOW MUCH
IT COULD BE
WORTH?



WHOA!

BLESSING!

BLESSING!

THAT SHOULD
RAISE THE
DAYLIGHTS
OUT OF
YOUR
LUCK
STAT!

NOW GO,
KAZUMA—
I'M
COUNTING
ON YOU!

BLESSING!

BLESSING!

IS A
GODDESS
ALLOWED
TO CHEAT
LIKE
THAT...?

WELL...
HERE
GOES.

YOU'RE
IMPROVING
THE CHANCE
HERE...

IF LUCK
KID...



AAAAND
GO!

YIPPEEE
!!

WE DID
IT! WE
GOT IT!

WE
HAVE A
WINNER—
OF THE
SPECIAL
PRIZE!



WELL,
WELL...
THAT'S
SOME
LUCK!
CONGRAT-
ULATIONS.

HERE
YA
AON!

I
CAN'T
BELIEVE
WE DID
IT!

I
WONDER
WHAT OUR
MYSTERIOUS
MAGICAL
ITEM IS...

YARE
COOPER

UM...

THIS
IS...

EVEN
THE COURT
MAGICIAN
WAS UTTERLY
UNABLE TO
MAKE IT DO
ANYTHING!

AN
OBJECT OF
EXTRACOR-
DINARY
POWER, NO
DOUBT!



GUH
!?

WHAT'RE
YOU TRYING
TO PULL!?



WH-
WHAT IS
WRONG
!?

I DON'T
NEED THIS
JUNK! GIMME
THE FIRST-
PLACE PRIZE
INSTEAD!



NO SIGNAL
AROUND
HERE,
OBVIOUSLY

IT'S OLD
TO BOOT

SOMEONE!
CALL THE
POLICE!







TRANSLATION NOTES

COMMON HONORIFICS

na *honorific*: Indicates familiarity or closeness; if used without permission or reason, addressing someone in this manner would constitute an insult.

-san: The Japanese equivalent of Mr./Mrs./Miss. If a situation calls for politeness, this is the failsafe honorific.

-sama: Conveys great respect; may also indicate that the social status of the speaker is lower than that of the addressee.

-chan: An affectionate honorific indicating familiarity used mostly in reference to girls; also used in reference to cute persons or animals of either gender.

PAGE 3

Hikikomori refers to people who experience severe social anxiety when outside their homes or interacting with others and so, sometimes voluntarily, withdraw from society. They are often called “shut-ins” or “modern-day hermits.”

PAGE 8

NEET is originally a British term but has been adopted by Japan, standing for “not in education, employment, or training.” It is usually used pejoratively, to look down on people who are seen as lazy or as freeloaders who won’t get a job.

PAGE 20

“**you hikimEET**”: To besh Kozuma, Aqua combines the terms *hikikomori* and NEET on the fly.



CONGRATS
ON THE
RELEASE OF
THE FIRST
MANGA VOLUME!

CONGRATULATIONS ON THE
RELEASE OF MANGA VOLUME 1!
CHARACTER DESIGNER KURONE
NISHIMA HERE. WATARI-SAN'S
VERSIONS OF THE CHARACTERS
ARE ADORABLE, AND I'M ALWAYS
EXCITED TO GET THE NEWEST
CHAPTER FROM DRAGON AGE.
I GOT TO ACTUALLY SEE AQUA-
SAMA'S PARTY TRICK! (HA-HA)

KURONE NISHIMA

NATSUME
AKATSUKI

CONGRATS ON THE PUBLICATION OF THE FIRST MANGA VOLUME!
EVERY MONTH, I'M EAGER TO SEE WHAT MASAHITO WATARI-SENSEI
HAS DONE WITH THE ADVENTURES OF KAZUMA & CO. THERE MIGHT
BE STORIES EXCLUSIVE TO THE MANGA VERSION—STAY TUNED.
GOD'S BLESSINGS ON THIS WONDERFUL COMIC!

MANGA ①

THANKS FOR
BUYING THIS BOOK!

I LOVED DRAWING IT!
SEE YOU NEXT TIME!

渡真仁

わたし まこと
MASAHITO WATARI



KONOSUBA: GOD'S BLESSING ON THIS WONDERFUL WORLD!

GOD'S
BLESSING
ON THIS
WONDERFUL
WORLD!

Natsume
Akatsuki

DRAGON AGE SHORT STORY

MAY THERE BE PAID LEAVE FOR THIS PARTY LEADER!

As we sat at the Guild bar, having a late lunch after work while we waited for our reward to be processed, Aqua said suddenly:

"I think it's about time we made clear who's the real leader of our little band."

I gave up chasing a cherry tomato around my plate with my fork and asked her, "...Why, exactly, do you think we need to do that?"

"I know you've kind of been our leader, Kazuma," she said, "but that just sort of...happened. Don't you think that's a bit unfair? I mean, I can lounge around and give orders, too."

This woman!

"What, you think I want to be the leader? You think it's all 'sitting around and giving orders'? I have to deal with anyone and everyone all day long! People annoyed by the sound of our mage's explosions. People who want us to rescue some idiot who wandered into the Pink Slime Lotion Dungeon."

Megumin and Darkness looked away at my words.

"Remember when you turned wine into water the other day? I had to pay for that! What in the world made you do such a dumb thing, anyway? You can't even walk down the street without getting into trouble!"

"Y-You don't understand! I smelled the wine while I was walking by

the bar, and it smelled so good! I just stuck my finger in for a little taste. It's not my fault if I immediately purify any liquid I touch! Aaaaah! I'm sorry! I apologize, now stoppitt!" I yanked on Aqua's hair as she started making up excuses.

I sat back down.

"So. How do you propose we decide who our leader is? If it's a contest of strength, I'm still gonna wind up in charge." No sooner had I spoken than Megumin was standing and wielding her staff...

"I cannot let that comment pass. If we are allowed to use our skills, then of course I—"

"—would get hit repeatedly with my Steal technique, resulting in your total and indecent public exposure." She returned to her seat without another word.

"Right," Aqua piped up, "let's forget about deciding by combat. Because it would tear us apart, all right? Not because I'm worried about your Steal skill, Kazuma. How about you leave that hand on your side of the table?"

She scooted her chair back as Darkness turned and whispered, glancing at me: "I... I wouldn't personally mind if we had a trial by combat with all our skills on the table..."

They were interrupted by Megumin's blunt declaration:

"Ahem, given that I am a member of the Crimson Magic Clan with very high intelligence, and an Arch-wizard possessed of calm, cool judgment, I nominate myself as leader of this group."

"Oh you do, do you? Well, I think a party of holy adventurers under an Arch-priest is a pretty good idea, myself."

"How can you say no to a Crusader as your leader? After all, the front-line defense is usually the one who directs things in these parties..."

I sat back as the three of them argued, sipping my coffee like I was watching an episode of a soap opera. I had no special interest in being the party leader. I would be perfectly happy if someone else took the job.

But at that moment...

"There you are! Excuse me, are you the ones who went to clear out those Nutrice this morning?" a Guild employee asked as she approached our table.

Yeah, we took the quest on those monsters.

As we glanced at each other, the employee thrust out a sheet of paper. "Those weren't squirrels you got rid of, they were Needlelice. As such, there is no reward. There is, however, a bill for the damage caused to local agriculture by your wizard's magic. Which of you is the party leader?"

Aqua and the others had fallen silent. They looked at each other.

Pointing at me, they answered in unison: "For now, he is."

Now...how am I going to get my revenge on them for this?

KONOSUBA: GOD'S BLESSING ON THIS WONDERFUL WORLD 1

Natsume Akatsuki

TRANSLATION: Kevin Steinbach  **LETTERING:** Bianca Pistillo

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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